

Message Text

SECRET

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60/43

ACTION EA-10

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SAJ-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 EUR-12 PA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1904

INFO USUN NEW YORK 761

AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T SAIGON 00553

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TO TEXTS NBRD PARA FOUR)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FDIP, VS, SZ, UN

SUBJECT: PRG LIAISON OFFICE IN GENEVA

REF: BERN 0195

1. IF THE IMPLICATIONS WERE NOT SO SERIOUS, ONE COULD ALMOST LAUGH AT THE EASE WITH WHICH THE SWISS HAVE FIRMLY PLACED THE MONKEY ON WALDHEIM'S BACK BY THE PHRASING OF THEIR COMMUNIQUE. BT THE IMPLICATIONS ARE QUITE SERIOUS AND WE BELIEVE SEVERAL ACTIONS SHOULD BE TAKEN.

2. WE BELIEVE THE SWISS, WITH WHATEVER EXPRESSIONS OF REGRET THE DEPARTMENT MAY DEEM APPROPRIATE ABOUT THE ACTION THEY HAVE TAKEN, SHOULD BE WARNED ONCE AGAIN THAT THE PRG HAS NO INTENTION OF ABIDING BY ANY LIMITATION TO CONFINE THEIR ACTIVITIES TO "YUMANITARIAN" ACTIVITIES, AND WE ASSUME THE GOS WILL NOT ALLOW IT TO BE USED AS A BASE FOR LAUNCHING A MASSIVE PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST COUNTRIES WITH WHICH THE GOS HAS TRADITIONALLY MAINTAINED THE FRIENDLIEST OF RELATIONS.

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3. WE BELIEVE THE SWISS SHOULD BE TOLD THAT THE USG WILL SIMPLY NOT

UNDERSTAND, IN VIEW OF THE ACTIGN JUST TAKEN, IF THE "PRG" IS AGLOWED TO BE SEATED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE FORTHCOMING HUMANITARIAN LAW CONFERENCE BY LESS THAN A TWO/THIRDS VOTE TO OVERTURN TYE ACTION TAKEN EXCLUDING THEM AT THE FIRST CONFERENCE.

4. WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD REDOUBLE ITS EFFORTS TO CANVASS FOR VOTES SUPPORTING AN EXPECTED RULING BQ THE CONVENING CHAIRMAN THAT A TWO/THIRDS VOTE IS NECESSARY TO OVERTURN DECISION TAKEN AT FIRST CONFERENCE.

5. WE BELIEVE THE USG SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT IF THE "PRG" SHOULD BE SEATED THE USG WOULD NOT CONSIDER IT WORTHWHILE TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN A CONFERENCE WHICH, IN VIEW OF THE SAVAGE AGRESSION BEING MOUNTED IN VIETNAM, WOULD HAVE BECOME A CYNICAL EXERCISE IN HYPOCRASY.

6. WE BELIEVE THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD PUBLICALLY EXPRESS ITS SHOCK THAT THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT, AT A TIME WHEN THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAS JUST EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN AT THE ESCALATION OF HOSTILITIES IN VIETNAM, SHOULD HAVE SO UNDERCUT THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY, IN EFFECT, REWARDING THE AGRRESSOR. TO THOSE WHO WOULD ARGUE THAT SO TO DO WOULD FURTHER ERODE THE SUPPORT FOR THE UN IN THE US, WE WOULD SAY THAT THE REVERSE IS TRUE. THAT UNLESS SOME "SHOCK THERAPY" IS PUBLICALLY APPLIED, THE PRESENT MINDLESS COURSE OF UN OFFICIALS IS QUITE LIKELY TO FURTHER ERODE, QUITE PROBABLY DRASTICALLY AND PERMANENTLY, THE ALREADY WANING SUPPORT FOR THE UN IN THE UNITED STATES.

7. DESPITE THE VALIANT ENDEAVORS OF USUN AND EMBASSY BERN, WHO WERE BROUGHT INTO PLAY TOO LATE, THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD CLEARLY RECOGNIZE THAT HANOI HAS WON A SIGNIFICANT VICTORY IN ITS "DIPLOMATIC OFFENSIVE "

AND AGAINST A DETERMINED EFFORT BY THE UNITED STATES TO PREVENT IT AN EFFORT WHICH WAS STARTED MUCH TOO LATE. WE SHOULD ALSO RECOGNIZE

THAT THEY ARE ON THE VERGE OF WINNING TWO OTHER SIGNIFICANT VICTORIES --ADMISSION TO THE HUMANITARIAN LAW CONFERENCE AND TO THE FORTHCOMING WMO SESSION. WE MAY LOSE THESE TOO, BUT NOT BECAUSE IT IS INEVITABLE.

MARTIN

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